

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§52.1011

(1) “Reasonably good character” with respect to whole or pitted dates other than whole dry dates for processing means that the dates are pliable; that not less than 75 percent, by weight, of the dates are reasonably well developed and reasonably well fleshed, or at time of packing are in a state of ripeness that within 15 days will develop into such character and the remainder may possess a fairly good character including not more than 10 percent, by weight, of the dates that may possess semi-dry calyx ends and dry calyx ends: *Provided*, That not more than 2 percent, by weight, of the dates may possess dry calyx ends.

(2) “Reasonably good character” with respect to whole dry dates for processing means that the dates may be firm and dry; that not less than 75 percent, by weight, of the dates are reasonably well developed and reasonably well fleshed and that the remainder are fairly well developed and fairly well fleshed.

(c) (C) *classification*. If the whole or pitted dates, whole dry dates for processing, date pieces, or macerated dates possess a fairly good character, a score of 28 to 31 points may be given. Dates that fall into this classification shall not be graded above U.S. Grade C or U.S. Standard or U.S. Grade C (Dry) or U.S. Standard (Dry), whichever is applicable, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule). “Fairly good character” has the following meanings with respect to the following styles:

(1) *Whole; pitted*. (i) In whole or pitted dates other than whole dry dates for processing the dates may be firm but are pliable; may possess semi-dry calyx ends; and not less than 80 percent, by weight, of the dates are fairly well developed and are fairly well fleshed, or at time of packing are in a state of ripeness that within 15 days will develop into such character and the remainder may fail to possess such fairly good character or may possess dry calyx ends.

(ii) In whole dry dates for processing the dates may be firm and dry but are fairly well developed and fairly well fleshed.

(2) *Pieces; macerated*. The character may be variable throughout the units

or mass but not seriously affected by dry calyx end material or inedible portions of dates.

(d) (SStd) *classification*. Dates that fail to meet the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section may be given a score of 0 to 27 points and shall not be graded above Substandard, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule).

LOT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION

§52.1010 Ascertaining the grade of a lot.

The grade of a lot of the processed product covered by these standards is determined by the procedures set forth in the regulations governing inspection and certification of processed fruits and vegetables, processed products thereof, and certain other processed food products (§§52.1 to 52.87).

[22 FR 3547, May 22, 1957. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977 and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981]

SCORE SHEET

§52.1011 Score sheet for dates.

Size and kind of container.
Container mark or identification.
Label or brand.
Net weight.
Style.
Count (per lb.).
Moisture content (if determined).
One variety ☐ Yes ☐ No.

Factors			
Score points.			
Color	20	(A)	18–20
		(B) (B-Dry)	¹ 16–17
		(C) (C-Dry)	¹ 14–15
		(SStd)	¹ 0–13
Uniformity of size.	10	(A)	9–10
		(B) (B-Dry)	¹ 8
		(C) (C-Dry)	¹ 7
		(SStd)	¹ 0–6
Absence of defects.	30	(A)	27–30
		(B) (B-Dry)	¹ 24–26
		(C) (C-Dry)	¹ 21–23
		(SStd)	¹ 0–20
Character	40	(A)	36–40
		(B) (B-Dry)	¹ 32–35
		(C) (C-Dry)	¹ 28–31
		(SStd)	¹ 0–27
Total score	100		
Grade.			

¹ Limiting rule.